

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 1, 9, 10, 11 and 11a, 12 and 14. The sheets, which includes Fig. 1 replaces Fig. 1, Fig. 9(a)-(d) replace Fig. 9, Fig. 10(a)-(b) replace Fig. 10, Fig. 11, 11a, 12 and 14 replace the same figures. The Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by the replacement of the figures.

REMARKS

In the non-final Office Action mailed May 12, 2008, the Office noted that claims 1-40 were pending, withdrew claims 37-40, rejected claims 1-8, 22-26 and 36 and objected to claims 9-21 and 27-35. Claims 1, 10, 23, 25 and 32 have been amended, claims 9, 22, 24, 30 and 36 have been canceled, and, thus, in view of the foregoing, claims 1-8, 10-21, 23, 25-29, 31-35 and 37-40 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Office's rejections and objections are traversed below.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to. In particular, the Office asserts that drawings do not show every feature of the invention as specified in the claims.

In particular, the Office asserts that the "spherical roller bearing", "the supporting members are provided with respective sleeve", "bearing plates on the underside of the slab", and "jack screw" are not shown.

The Applicant submits that a spherical roller bearing is also known as pivoting mechanism 11 as in Fig. 11. It may also be seen in Fig. 1 element 106. Claim 11 has been amended to replace supporting members with hanger rods 16. Support may be found, for example, in element 16 of Fig. 11. The bearing plate may be found, for example, in element 18 as in Fig. 11 and the

supporting text. Jack screw has been replaced by jack.

Further, the Office indicates that several reference marks are duplicated in the Specification. The Applicant has amended the Specification and the claims to remove duplicate marks.

Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The disclosure stands objected to for informalities. In particular, the Office states rejects some of the language of the Specification.

The Applicant has amended the Specification in compliance with the comments of the Office.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CLAIM OBJECTION

Claims 1, 23, 31 and 32 stand objected to for informalities. In particular, the Office asserts that the claims introduce features improperly or features contradict each other.

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 23 to overcome the rejection and cancelled claim 31.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112,

second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office asserts the claims contain antecedent basis issues or are omnibus in nature.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to overcome the rejections. Claims 22, 24 and 26 have been cancelled.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Office has indicated that claims 9-21 and 27-35 would be in a condition for allowance if re-written in independent form including any intervening claims. The Applicant thanks the Office for the consideration given the claims.

The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 23 to include the features of claim 9 and claim 25 has been amended to include the features of claim 30. Thus, the Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 23 and 25 and the claims dependent therefrom are allowable.

Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Neighbours, U.S. Patent No. 5,644,893. The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the rejection with

an amendment.

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended to include the features of claim 9 and claim 25 has been amended to include the features of claim 30. The Office has indicated that claims 9 and 30 are allowable.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.


SUMMARY

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 103. It is also submitted that claims 1-8, 10-21, 23, 25-29, 31-35 and 37-40 continue to be allowable. It is further submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



James J. Livingston, Jr.
Reg.No. 55,394
209 Madison St, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573

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Appendix:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- Replacement Sheets